GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2292
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2017
Sim Box Fraud
Chinnaraj Shri Gopalakrishnan;P. Shri Nagarajan;Singh Shri Rakesh

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the reported incidents of the use of smuggled Sim Box being used by terrorist organizations aiding espionage and facilitating hawala transactions in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether over sixty parallel illegal phone exchanges were allegedly being operated across the country facilitating the aforementioned illegal activities as per recent investigations;

(d) if so, the details thereof including the location-wise details of the said exchanges; and

(e) the preventive and punitive action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard including ban/closure of such equipments?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) & (b) Madam, no incident regarding use of smuggled Sim Box being used by terrorist organizations aiding espionage and facilitating hawala transactions in the country has been reported to Department of Telecom (DoT) during last year 2016 and current year 2017 (upto 28.02.2017).

(c) to (e) Telecom Enforcement Resource and Monitoring (TERM) Cells, the field units of DoT constantly endeavor to curb illegal telephone exchange set ups with the help of law enforcement agencies. A total of 22 number of illegal phone exchanges allegedly operating across the country have been unearthed by TERM Cells during last year 2016 and current year 2017 (upto 28.02.2017). The location-wise details of these illegal phone exchanges and action taken thereon is attached as Annexure-I. Equipments used in these illegal set ups are seized by law enforcement agencies and cases are registered against offenders. Further action is taken by the concerned law enforcement agencies.

The modus operandi in most of these unearthed cases is the setting up of an illegal telephone system using high-tech equipments having Leased Line connectivity on one side and Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN)/Public Land Mobile Network (PLMN) connectivity on the other side. This illegal telephone setup operates in a way that incoming voice calls meant for PSTN/PLMN network are received via the leased link as data traffic (illegal route) thereby by passing the legal International Long Distance Operators (ILDOs) and National Long Distance Operators (NLDOs) route. The PLMN connectivity in these set-ups is mainly provided using mobile SIM Boxes.

Government has issued instructions and guidelines to all licensed service providers for effective monitoring, detection and prevention of such illegal set-ups. Further, in order to curb such illegal activities, all TERM Cells have been regularly sensitized and instructed to create awareness among customers by making them aware of the telecom calls through unauthorized route and bring such calls to the notice of telecom authorities by informing on the Toll Free number 1800110420.

Annexure-I

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2292 FOR ANSWER ON 15.03.2017

SIM BOX FRAUD
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SN Location of illegal phone exchange Action Taken
1 Aatos Infotech, Attayikulath Apartments, Cheruparambath Rd, Kadavanthra, Ernakulam, Kerala FIR No. 0121/16 dated 29.01.2016 at South P.S., Ernakulam. One staff employed was taken into custody.
2 Shinestar Marketing, North Plaza Bldg, Near North Railway Station Ernakulam, Kerala FIR No. 530/16 dated 29.01.2016 at North P.S., Ernakulam. One person was taken into custody.
3 Near Main Gate, Priyadarshini Colony, Purania, Aliganj Lucknow-226001, Uttar Pradesh FIR No- 01/17 dated 23.01.2017, P.S.- A.T.S, Sadar, Lucknow
4 1st Floor, J.M Enterprises, Mohalla- Shankarpur, Thana- Madiyaon, Sitapur Road, Lucknow-226021, Uttar Pradesh FIR no- 01/17

dated 23.01.2017, P.S.- A.T.S, Sadar, Lucknow
5 House no- E-III 903, Aliganj, Sector-I, Lucknow-226001, Uttar Pradesh FIR no- 01/17 dated 23.01.2017, P.S.- A.T.S, Sadar, Lucknow
6 Shop no- 57, Agarwal Plaza, Near Lekhraj Nageena, Indira Nagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh FIR no- 0908 dated 08.10.2016, P.S.- Ghazipur, Lucknow
7 S/o Kamlesh Dixit, Sarai Thok Paschimi, near Bilgram Chungi, Hardoi, Uttar Pradesh FIR no. 01/2017 lodged by UP-ATS
8 Krishna Medical Store, Opp. Union Bank, Greek ganj, Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh FIR no. 01/2017 lodged by UP-ATS
9 Cyber Jaguar, House- 464, Vijay Lashmi Nagar, Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh
FIR no. 141/17 lodged on 25.01.2017
10 M/s Balaji Enterprises ,5/A Paras Singh Road, Rishra, Hoogly, Pin-712248, West Bengal FIR No. 133/16 dated 16.09.2016 lodged at P.S. Rishra
11 M/s Balaji Enterprises ,5/A Paras Singh Road, Rishra, Hoogly, Pin-712248, West Bengal FIR No. 133/16 dated 16.09.2016 lodged at P.S. Rishra
12 M/s Balaji Enterprises ,13 R N Shah Road, Rishra, Hoogly, Pin-712248, West Bengal FIR No. 133/16 Dated 16.09.2016 lodged at P.S. Rishra
13 Plot.No.146, RK Cottage,Sun city,P&T Colony, Hyderguda, Hyderabad FIR No.40/2016
Dated 25-01-2016 at Central Crime Station, Hyderabad, 2 persons arrested
14 H.No.2-5-29/17 Mifaas Manzil,Upperpally,
Hyderabad FIR No.40/2016
Dated 25-01-2016 at Central Crime Station, Hyderabad, 2 persons arrested
15 H.No 4-25/3/2/A/3, Diamond City,Suleman
Nagar,Rajendra Nagar, Hyderabad FIR No.40/2016
Dated 25-01-2016 at Central Crime Station, Hyderabad, 2 persons arrested
16 H.No.19-1-376/68/2,2nd Floor,Beside Suhana Function Hall, Gazimillath Colony, Chandrayanagutta, Hyderabad FIR No.40/2016
Dated 25-01-2016 at Central Crime Station, Hyderabad, 2 persons arrested
17 Flat No.6608, Blockno.6, Panchavathi Apartment Pent house, Pragathi Nagar, Kukatpally, Hyderabad FIR No. 114/2016
Dated 05-09-2016 at Central Crime Station, Hyderabad, 4 persons arrested
18 Plot No. E117,Flat No.101, Madhura nagar, Hyderabad FIR No. 114/2016
Dated 05-09-2016 at Central Crime Station, Hyderabad, 4 persons arrested
19 GPRS Communications, #195, PRR Complex,Madhura nagar colony (opp) Sai ranga Theatre, Miyapur, Hyderabad-500049 FIR No. 114/2016
Dated 05-09-2016 at Central Crime Station, Hyderabad, 4 persons arrested
20 Plot no.138,Flat No.204, Satyam Apartments,
Siddhartha Nagar, S R Nagar, Hyderabad FIR No. 114/2016
Dated 05-09-2016 at Central Crime Station, Hyderabad, 4 persons arrested
21 H.No.20-7-74 Himmathpura, Hussainialam Hyderabad, Telangana FIR No. 10/2017
Dated 26-01-2017 at Central Crime Station, Hyderabad, 1 persons arrested
22 FIITJEE Classroom, Punjabi Bagh Center, Delhi FIR no- 01/17 dated 23.01.2017

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